

PSYCHIATRIC AIDE

A student who has completed the Job Corps Psychiatric Aide program is equipped with the skills to contribute to the workplace as a valued employee from day one. Competence in academic and vocational skills is required for graduation. In addition, Job Corps students learn employability and technological skills. To complete his or her Psychiatric Aide training, a student must master skills in these categories:

PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

Identify and define the community agencies that provide services to the mentally handicapped; visit three agencies that specialize in helping the mentally handicapped; discuss the theory and structure of government, volunteer, advocacy, educational and rehabilitative services in the community; explain an analysis of the programming needs of mentally handicapped persons; discuss the community agencies that provide services to mentally handicapped persons and programming strategies; explain the skills necessary to assess the needs of mentally handicapped adults; write an individual goal plan for a mentally handicapped adult; satisfactorily complete Pennsylvania state requirements for MH/MR Specialist in the following areas: fire safety, medications, first aid/CPR and home safety/maintenance; demonstrate effective communication skills (verbal and non-verbal) with a mentally ill and mentally retarded client; counsel a mentally ill and mentally retarded client and explain the counseling techniques utilized; complete an internship in an agency under the direction of an MH/MR staff.

SPECIFIC COURSE ELECTIVES

Demonstrate report writing as it relates to government, business or industry; explain the normal aging process; identify a personal habit and explain how to correct it utilizing behavior modification; discuss behavior modification, communication skills, problem solving and group dynamics as they relate to psychological principles; explain each of the critical development tasks of: infant, toddler, preschooler, child, adolescent, young adult, middle-aged adult and older adult; discuss the issues of death and dying and the psychological impact they have on patients as well as family members; discuss the ethical issues related to death and dying; identify and explain the therapeutic techniques used to prevent, manage and defuse crisis situations; discuss passive resistance when dealing with crisis intervention; discuss the psychological and physiological dynamics as they relate to mental illness; identify the psychological theories and how they relate to understanding mental illness; discuss the use of psychological principles to improve performance of people working together; demonstrate an understanding of basic biology and explain the following: fundamental concepts pertaining to the cell, multicellular organisms and environmental relationships.